



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Eastern District of Wisconsin*

517 East Wisconsin Avenue

414 / 297-1700

Milwaukee, WI 53202

TTY 414 / 297-1088

NEWS SUMMARY

December 20, 2007

Former Racine Funeral Home Director Charged with Possession & Distribution of Child Pornography

Steven M. Biskupic, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, announced today that a federal grand jury has returned an indictment charging Jon C. Hanson, 48, of Franksville, Wisconsin, with possession and distribution of child pornography. Until recently, Hanson was owner of the Hanson Funeral Home in Racine, Wisconsin. According to the indictment, Hanson possessed images of minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct and used a computer connected to the Internet to distribute such images, including sadistic images of pre-pubescent children.

If convicted of possession of child pornography, Hanson faces a maximum of ten years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000. If convicted of distributing child pornography, he faces a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in prison and a maximum penalty of 20 years.

The case against Hanson stems from a multi-state investigation by the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

According to United States Attorney Steven M. Biskupic, "the Department of Justice has made the protection of our nation's children a top priority through Project Safe Childhood, and prosecutions such as this further that priority." He added: "Regardless of profession or position, those involved in child pornography crimes will be prosecuted and will face real time in federal prison."

The public is cautioned that an indictment is merely the formal method of returning charges against an individual and does not constitute evidence of his guilt. A person is presumed innocent until such time, if ever, as the government establishes his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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For Additional Information Contact:

First Assistant United States Attorney Michelle L. Jacobs
Assistant United States Attorney Jonathan H. Koenig
414-297-1700